

# Grand Rapids Morning Telegram.

VOL. I.—NUMBER 56.

GRAND RAPIDS, MICH., WEDNESDAY MORNING, NOVEMBER 26, 1884.

PRICE 2 CENTS

## THE ASSOCIATED PRESS.

### STATEMENT OF DR. NORVIN GREEN

He Defends the Western Union Against the Charges of Unfair Reports of the Late Election.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE, WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH COMPANY, NEW YORK, Nov. 24, '84.—To the Public:—Now, since the presidential election is settled and the excitement incident to a close political contest has abated, it is proper to say we are prepared to show most conclusively the utter groundlessness of all charges against the Western Union Telegraph Company of partiality in reporting or withholding the election returns of the State of New York. I deny in the most emphatic manner that the Western Union Company delayed, altered or withheld the election returns of this State, or any other State, or tampered with them in any way. It had nothing whatever to do with the returns of the State of New York except to transmit them over the lines as prepared by the agent of the Associated Press. All the returns of the State were collected by the Associated Press. All the compiling was done in its offices by its own agents and all bulletins were prepared by it and copies were simply delivered to Mr. Somerville, superintendent of our newspaper service, for general distribution to the public. This company had nothing to do with making up the bulletins, nor did any officer, or agent, or other person connected with, or interested in this company except the operators who transmitted the returns, have access to or see any of them until the bulletins had been made up therefrom in the Associated Press office and handed to us for public distribution, and I have no reason to believe that the agents of the Associated Press acted otherwise than in an impartial manner.

Ordinarily, many of our offices are not kept open for business after 8 o'clock p. m. To assist us in meeting the extraordinary expense of the extra employment of several thousand night operators we have had for several years arrangements with the Press Associations giving us the privilege of sending bulletins to political and social clubs and other subscribing customers. We simply took the Associated Press bulletins as that association had made them up and delivered them as heretofore to customers who had subscribed for them—nothing more. The charge that returns were purposely withheld, or that there was unusual delay in reporting them, is entirely false. Instead of such delay there was extraordinary promptness. Never before have reports from so many election districts been received within so short a time. Within forty-eight hours after the count of the ballots began, returns were received from ninety-eight per cent. of the 3,000 election districts in the State. Although the night of the election was stormy, and there was some trouble in working the wires, no delay occurred in reports handed to our offices outside the city of New York. Within the city the telegraph service was nearly perfect as it was possible to make it, and the only trouble was with some of the short wires hastily erected for temporary use. It is here to be noted that heretofore the majority reported from the most populous and therefore the most accessible counties have been so decided in the popular mind has been set at rest respecting the result of elections on the first night, and there being no hope or fear of a change in the general result, subsequent returns, more or less tardy, have straggled in unheeded. In two instances in this State, I have been informed that the county canvassers, who met one week after the election this year, had to adjourn over because the county clerks had, up to that time, been unable to get in the vote of their counties. The only other returns complained of were those of Indiana, where, at the request of the political committees, and the press, in the absence of any agent of the Associated Press, the reports came through, and were sent out by our superintendent, Mr. J. F. Wallack, who insists that he used every effort to obtain all the returns as speedily as possible. I consider the demand for an investigation of the service made by the *Annapolis Sentinel*, and also by Mr. Wallack himself reasonable and proper, and I have asked the chairman of the Indiana Democratic State Committee to take part in the investigation or to name a representative to do so. The management of their company in its business relation to the public is strictly non-political and non-partisan. The employees represent every shade of political opinion and are in the company's service solely by virtue of their proficiency as telegraphers. What their individual political opinions are has never been in any case called into question, nor have their votes ever been canvassed or ascertained. But of those with whom I personally come in contact, I know that they are quite as many Democrats as Republicans. It is, therefore, manifestly absurd to charge that the service of the company could be converted into a party machine or could be in any way distorting or stifle the facts when any such attempted conspiracy could only have been made by the aid of a large number of members of the political party which it was designed to injure.

NORVIN GREEN, Pres.

### A Grave Charge Denied.

NEW YORK, Nov. 25.—The following telegram has been received here:

BOSTON, Nov. 25.—The report published in today's New York papers that the *Knight of Honor* reported charged R. J. Beckridge, of Louisville, Ky., with stealing \$100,000 is false. He has about that amount in his hands which he is required to pay over to the new Supreme Treasurer, and the case is in the courts. Upon those facts, we presume the story has been started. We have had no intimation of a libel suit in the matter being commenced against us.—*Knight of Honor Reporter*.

### The Mormon Perjurers.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 25.—The report of the Utah Commission was handed to the President to-day. The operations of the laws against polygamy in that territory are shown to be only partially successful. One reason given to account for this, is perjury by the Mormons in cases brought against persons of their own faith. The commission presents recommendations lacking for more efficient execution of anti-polygamy laws.

### Killed by Lightning.

POINT PLEASANT, W. Va., Nov. 25.—During a severe storm last night lightning struck the house of Joseph Shierley, on Coogan Creek, and instantly killed Mrs. Shierley and a daughter thirteen years old.

### Assigned.

DAYTON, O., Nov. 25.—J. R. Inkster & Co., dry goods, assigned to-day. Their liabilities and assets are not given.

## RAILROAD RATES.

### Attempt to Restore Them by Passenger Agents.

CHICAGO, Nov. 25.—Thirty-two general passenger and ticket agents of various roads between the western termini of the trunk lines and the Missouri River were in session at the Grand Pacific to-day with a view to the re-establishment of rates wherever cuts have been made. E. A. Ford, of the Pennsylvania, was elected chairman, and J. M. Hall, secretary. The dividing point between eastern and western roads was Buffalo. The present meeting has nothing to do with affairs east of that point and as to intermediate territory between Buffalo and Chicago everything depends on the arrangements to be made between the roads running west out of Chicago. No road west of Buffalo, or east of Chicago, has done more during the progress of war than to protect its own interests by making through rates to the Missouri River from such points as Buffalo, Toledo and Cleveland, as would induce passengers to purchase through tickets instead of getting off at Chicago to take advantage of the cut from that on. It was said at this meeting that no means at the command of the representatives present would be spared to effect a general restoration of western rates. During the session nothing was done save to discuss the general situation and appoint a committee to draw up a plan whereby the objects of the meeting would be best subserved. At 1 o'clock the meeting adjourned to 4 p. m.

Nothing definite can be learned of the proceedings after reassembling at 4 o'clock, but it is generally understood that no agreement was arrived at, and the meeting adjourned sine die.

## RUINS IN ROME.

### An Incendiary Fire in that City in New York State.

ROME, N. Y., Nov. 24.—This city narrowly escaped a terrible scorching this morning. Shortly after 1 o'clock fire was discovered in the office of G. V. Selden's lumber yard and planing mill on Front street. Under a strong west wind the fire spread rapidly, threatening to sweep across the southern portion of the city above the New York Central railroad. The lumber office and sheds, R. A. Putnam's carpenter shop on Front street, and large piles of lumber extending southward through to John street, and the tenement row known as the Long block, on John street, were all ablaze by 2 o'clock and it seemed as if nothing could save Martin's livery, Whitman & Burrell's dairy depot, the new Temperance Hotel, Schiller's block and Bingham's carriage works. Mayor Mitchell telephoned to Utica for aid, but in half an hour the local fire department had succeeded in heading off the fire at the several points of progress and the call was contentedly dropped. The property destroyed, including the families of Jacob Oehm, Robert Orr and Frank Bassett, tenants in the Long block, lost all their household effects. They are poor and had no insurance. The mayor offers a reward of \$500 for the detection of any incendiary.

## THEY EXAMINE THE BALLOTS.

### After Receiving Restrictions from Judge Blodgett.

CHICAGO, Nov. 25.—In the Leman-Brand Senatorial fight to-day Judge Blodgett, after hearing the argument of the counsel for and against inspecting the ballot, decided that if the jury desired to see them, they could do so. He instructed the jurors as to how far they could go in the case they were conducting. He was explicit in saying that this inquiry could extend no further than to the election of Congressmen. The jury took a vote as to whether they should have the ballots or not. It was decided to do so, and the foreman went to Judge Blodgett and asked for an order on Clerk Ryan to produce them. The order was issued and the Judge told the jury to return when they desired to inspect the ballot, and he would instruct them as to the restrictions he had promised to impose. At 2:35 p. m. the deputy-county clerk came into the court room with the ballots of the Second Precinct of the Eighteenth Ward. The grand jury then received further instructions from Judge Blodgett and retired to examine the ballots.

### Attorney-General Brewster's Report.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 25.—Attorney-General Brewster has completed his annual report. It contains a number of suggestions and recommendations looking to new legislation amendatory of existing statutes. Our criminal procedure is faulty. In criminal cases the pleadings should be simplified, and a uniform system of challenges provided, and trials should be short of technical objections and numberless dilatory motions, that can now be interposed to prevent a speedy trial. He favors the creation of a United States prison, centrally located.

## A HENWED STRIKE THREATENED.

TACUMSON, MICH., Nov. 25.—The weavers at the Whitterton mills who struck yesterday, and returned to work this morning again, went out this noon against the advice of older weavers. The management threatens to close the entire mill if the weavers do not return to work to-morrow. This will throw 1,300 out of employment.

## A COSTLY COON.

HAMLEN, W. V., Nov. 25.—Two brothers named Kincaid treed a coon on Sycamore Creek, and after vainly trying to capture the animal, built a fire by a tree and lay down to wait until morning. During the night they fell asleep and the tree taking fire burned off and fell on them. Both were horribly burned, one being killed almost instantly and the other dying soon after.

## Dan Says So. That Settles It.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 25.—Senator Voorhees, of Indiana, arrived this afternoon. He says there is not a word of truth in the report of ill-feeling between Cleveland and Hendricks. He also says ex-Senator McDonald will have a place in Cleveland's cabinet.

## Death of An Ex-Congressman.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 25.—Hon. John B. Savage, formerly Member of Congress from this district, died suddenly at 3:30 p. m. to-day.

## INTERESTS OF LABOR.

### ITALIAN WORKMEN IN COURT.

The Sunny Climbers Arrested for Rioting—Woolen Mills Closing—Iron Works Resumed.

WILMINGTON, Del., Nov. 25.—The Italian laborers who engaged in the riot at Newark yesterday were brought here this morning in a gondola car. At either end of the car stood officers with shot-guns and pistols ready for action. The wounded rode in a passenger car. The sight of the sixty Italians carrying trunks, bedding and other household goods through the streets, escorted by armed men, created much excitement. The ringleader of the riot, a man named Christopher, was among the captured. The men were arraigned before the city court at once, and evidence was taken as to the particulars of the affair. The three men captured yesterday afternoon had their heads swathed in bandages, and presented a pitiable appearance. The large court room was crowded, and the proceedings were very slow, inasmuch as everything had to be done through an interpreter. Three were held in \$1,000 bail for assault with intent to kill, and fifty-one were held in \$3,000 for riotous conduct. Being unable to secure bail, the whole party were taken to Newcastle jail by a special train, in charge of Sheriff Ford and his deputies, to await trial.

### More Mills Shutting Down.

CINCINNATI, Nov. 25.—Next Saturday the Fairmount woolen mills will shut down, as will also the mills in the West. This is on account of the general depression in trade throughout the country, to allow manufacturers to get rid of their surplus stock. This is part of an agreement entered into by all the mill owners west of the Alleghenies. Twenty-five hundred looms will be stopped, and five thousand men thrown out of employment. It is not known how long the shut-down will continue.

### Cutting Down.

WOONSOCKET, R. I., Nov. 25.—The Harris Woolen Company's privilege mill commenced running on three-quarters time to-day. The North Bellingham and Caryville (Mass.) woolen mills will go on three-quarters time Dec. 1. The report that the owners of the Woonsocket mills at Taunton had agreed to cut down the striking weavers is untrue. The latter return to work at 10 per cent. reduction.

### Work to be Resumed.

BETHLEHEM, Pa., Nov. 25.—It was announced this morning that the puddling mill of the Bethlehem Iron Company, which has been idle since the early part of the summer, would resume December 12.

## STOCKHOLDERS IN COUNCIL.

The Ticket Prepared by the Mills Party is Elected.

NEW YORK, Nov. 25.—The annual meeting of the stockholders and bondholders of the New York, Lake Erie & Western Railroad, for the election of a board of directors, was held this afternoon. There was but one ticket in the field and that was prepared by the Mills party, the committee of which was represented by Mr. J. G. McCullough, who cast the vote. Of the \$70,000,000 of stock voted on \$40,000,000 were controlled by the Mills party. No opposition was made to the ticket. The following is the list of names of the gentlemen elected: John King, William White, J. G. McCullough, Ogden Mills, William A. Wheelock, James A. Raynor, W. B. Denmore, Wm. Abbey, George M. Graves, Wm. I. Strong, J. Low, Henry H. Cope, George W. Quaintance, Courtland Parker, James G. Goodwin, William N. Gilchrist, Jacob Hayes. The only members of the old board who are re-elected are Messrs. Strong, Welsh, Parker and Goodwin. Mr. King was elected president. Mr. C. G. Lincoln, treasurer; Mr. W. R. McDowell, secretary; Bowen, vice-president; executive committee, Messrs. McCullough, Cook, Porter, and Welsh.

### Fanaticism and Death.

WESTFIELD, Mass., Nov. 25.—Six miles northwest of here lives Isaac Bronson, wife and grown-up family, all spiritualists. Last week the woman came to her husband and asked him if he would feel sorry to have her spirit depart, only to revisit him occasionally. He said "no." She swallowed poison and went to bed. He sat beside her and watched her slowly die in great agony without aiding her, and then went happily and told the neighbors, most of whom are spiritualists also. He is not sorry, and does not seem to fear the law.

### Begging for a Life.

QUEBEC, Nov. 25.—A number of leading ladies of Quebec, including the wives of ex-Judge J. T. Taschereau, of the Supreme court; Hon. F. Langevin, mayor of Quebec; Senator Pelletier, Judge L. B. Caron, and others have signed a collective letter, which has been forwarded to Lady Lansdowne, begging her to intercede with the Governor General for a commutation of the sentence of death passed upon Mrs. Bronson, who stands resolute until Thursday next.

### Horses Seized.

ST. PAUL, Minn., Nov. 25.—Sixteen of the forty horses captured from horse thieves near Glendive have been seized by a special inspector of the United States Treasury Department, on a charge that they were smuggled across the Canada line. It is the first seizure of the kind here, and is chiefly noteworthy because horse-thieves have frequently avoided judicial proceedings by claiming that stock found in their possession came from Canada.

### The Fatal Foot-Ball.

BOSTON, Nov. 25.—W. B. Phillips, one of the most popular Harvard students and a leader in college athletics, is lying at the point of death from injuries received in playing foot-ball. The committee on athletics has announced its intention to ask the faculty to prohibit foot-ball after this season.

### Attorney Hewlett's Funeral.

JACKSON, Mich., Nov. 25.—The trial of Dan Hotelens was adjourned to-day until 2 p. m. on account of the funeral of the late prominent attorney, Frank R. Hewlett. The members of the bar attended the funeral in a body.

## JEFF. DAVIS HEARD FROM.

### A Controversy Between General Sherman and the Ex-Confederate.

ST. LOUIS, Mo., Nov. 25.—At the opening of the new hall of the Frank P. Blair Post of the Grand Army Republic, some time ago, Gen. Sherman in a speech said: "Jeff Davis was not a secessionist. He was a conspirator. I have seen letters from Jefferson Davis to a man whose name I cannot mention, because he is a United States Senator. In that letter he said he would turn Lee's army against any State that might attempt to secede from the southern confederacy."

Mr. Davis writes a letter to the *Republican*, saying: "This public assault under the covert plea that it is based upon information which regard for a United States Senator does not permit him to present, will, to honorable minds, suggest the idea of irresponsible slander." He adds that the allegation of his ever having written such a letter as is described is unqualifiedly false, and the assertion that he had any purpose or wish to destroy the liberty and equal rights of any State, either North or South, is a reckless, shameless falsehood. "If Gen. Sherman, he concludes, 'has access to any letters purporting to have been written by me which will sustain such accusations let him produce them or withdraw the brand of a base slanderer.'"

The *Chronicle* publishes the following interview with Gen. Sherman on the above letter: "I have read the letter of Jefferson Davis in this morning's paper," he began at once, anticipating the questions, "and I have nothing to say to the newspapers. This is an affair between two gentlemen. I will take my time about it and write to Mr. Davis himself. We will settle the matter between us."

"Have the papers misrepresented you in your remarks before Frank Blair post, G. A. R.?" he was asked.

"I have nothing about that; my reply to Mr. Davis will not be through the papers. They are not the arbiters of this question. Nor the go-between for any dispute. I have no more to say."

## THE TRIAL OF HOLCOMB.

### New Counsel Engaged—Vigorous Legal Contests.

T. E. Barkworth, of Jackson, has been employed to assist the prosecution in the Holcomb trial. Yesterday's *Detroit News* says:

The defense made one of their most vigorous fights yesterday in the nature of an objection to allowing Sheriff Winney to state just how Holcomb looked and acted at the celebrated interview that took place in the room of Detective Harris in this city some time last January. Harris made up his mind soon after he came on the case last January that the circumstances pointed to Dan Holcomb as having guilty knowledge of the Judd Crouche. On this theory the Pinkerton man made a point to get Holcomb into his room and then and there confront him with the 38 revolver story as he had heard it, and from this interview the astute detective expected great things to result. The plan was originally suggested by the Judd Crouche, and it was expected Judd would be there, but for some reason or another the latter didn't get there, and Dan had to confront the three men alone, Sheriff Winney, Detective Harris and George Hay, another Pinkerton man. Dan didn't say a word about the pistol, but he was greatly affected and acted strangely. On his theory the Pinkerton man made a point to get Holcomb into his room and then and there confront him with the 38 revolver story as he had heard it, and from this interview the astute detective expected great things to result. The plan was originally suggested by the Judd Crouche, and it was expected Judd would be there, but for some reason or another the latter didn't get there, and Dan had to confront the three men alone, Sheriff Winney, Detective Harris and George Hay, another Pinkerton man. Dan didn't say a word about the pistol, but he was greatly affected and acted strangely. On his theory the Pinkerton man made a point to get Holcomb into his room and then and there confront him with the 38 revolver story as he had heard it, and from this interview the astute detective expected great things to result. 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